

What is claimed is:

1. A method of performing a transaction comprising:

placing a first device in wireless communication with a second device;

selecting an application deployed on the first device which will be utilized to conduct the transaction, wherein the application selected is supported by the second device;

determining transaction processing capabilities supported by the second device;

communicating application data from the first device to the second device, wherein the application data is selected in response to the transaction processing capabilities; and

processing the application data as required by the application to approve or disapprove the transaction.
2. The method of claim 1 wherein the first device is an integrated circuit card.
3. The method of claim 2 wherein said integrated circuit card comprises an antennae for communicating with the second device over a wireless interface.
4. The method of claim 1 wherein the first device is a cellular telephone.
5. The method of claim 1 wherein the first device is a personal digital assistant.
6. The method of claim 1 wherein the first device comprises:

means for storing application data; and

means for communicating with the second device over a wireless interface.
7. The method of claim 1 wherein the second device comprises:

a reader for receiving data from the first device over a wireless interface.
8. The method of claim 1 wherein the second device comprises:

a point of sale terminal.

9. The method of claim 1 wherein the second device comprises a hardware security key.
10. The method of claim 1 wherein the first device communicates with the second device by radio frequency.
11. The method of claim 1 wherein the first device communicates with the second device by infrared communication.
12. The method of claim 1 wherein the first device communicates with the second device by laser communication.
13. The method of claim 1 wherein the step of determining transaction processing capabilities comprises:
 - informing the first device of the application selected for use in performing the transaction;
 - communicating a request from the first device to the second device wherein said request seeks data on the capability of the second device to perform particular transaction types; and
 - communicating the transaction processing capabilities from the second device to the first device.
14. The method of claim 1 wherein the application data comprises security data.
15. The method of claim 14 wherein the security data comprises data for static data authentication.
16. The method of claim 14 wherein the security data comprises data for dynamic data authentication.
17. The method of claim 1 wherein the step of processing the application data occurs offline.
18. The method of claim 1 wherein the step of selecting the application comprises:

transmitting from the first device to the second device a list comprising:

applications supported by the first device; and

a priority indicator for each application, wherein the priority indicator indicates the preference that the associated application will be selected for use in performing the transaction;

comparing the applications supported by the first device with the applications supported by the second device; and

selecting the application mutually supported by the first device and the second device with the highest priority indicator as the application for use in approving or disapproving the transaction.

19. The method of claim 1 wherein the step of selecting the application comprises:

transmitting from the first device to the second device data identifying the applications supported by the first device;

comparing the applications supported by the first device with the applications supported by the second device;

displaying applications mutually supported by the first device and the second device to a user of the first device; and

selecting the application to be used to approve or disapprove the transaction, wherein such selection is performed by the user of the first device.

20. The method of claim 1 wherein the second device is informed of the application data format prior to receiving the application data.

21. The method of claim 1 wherein the second device determines the application data format by parsing the application data for an indicator.

22. The method of claim 21 wherein the presence of the indicator informs the second device the application data is formatted for magnetic stripe transactions.

23. The method of claim 21 wherein the absence of the indicator informs the second device the application data is formatted for magnetic stripe transaction.

24. A method for selecting an application for use in approving or disapproving a transaction over a wireless interface comprising:

transmitting the applications supported by a first device to a second device in wireless communication with the first device;

comparing the applications supported by the first device to applications supported by the second device;

displaying on the second device the mutually supported applications to a user of the first device;

selecting a desired application from the mutually supported applications displayed on the second device, wherein such selection is performed by the user of the first device;

communicating the desired application from the second device to the first device; and

communicating from the first device to the second device data necessary for the desired applications to approve or disapprove the transaction.

25. The method of claim 24 wherein the first device is an integrated circuit card.

26. The method of claim 25 wherein said integrated circuit card comprises an antennae for communicating with the second device over a wireless interface.

27. The method of claim 24 wherein the first device is a cellular telephone.

28. The method of claim 24 wherein the first device is a personal digital assistant.

29. The method of claim 24 wherein the first device comprises:

means for storing application data; and

means for communicating with the second device over a wireless interface.

30. The method of claim 24 wherein the second device comprises:

a reader for receiving data from the first device over a wireless interface.

31. The method of claim 24 wherein the second device comprises:

a point of sale terminal.

32. The method of claim 24 wherein the second device comprises a hardware security key.

33. The method of claim 24 wherein the first device communicates with the second device by radio frequency.

34. The method of claim 24 wherein the first device communicates with the second device by infrared communication.

35. The method of claim 24 wherein the first device communicates with the second device by laser communication.